

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:

central processing means for conducting operation control of the whole image processing apparatus;

setting means for storing control information specified by said central processing means;

clock generation means for generating a clock signal having a basic period equivalent to that of a pixel or less;

a plurality of variable frequency generation means for adjusting a frequency of the clock signal outputted from said clock generation means to a predetermined level independently of each other, based on the control information specified by said central processing means, said plurality of variable frequency generation means being provided respectively in association with a plurality of development colors;

image input connection means for receiving predetermined data from an external device;

a plurality of image processing means for converting parallel image data inputted from said image input connection

means to serial image data, based on ~~a~~ the frequency of ~~a~~ the clock signal outputted from an associated one of said variable frequency generation means, said plurality of image processing means being provided respectively in association with ~~a~~ the plurality of development colors; and

image output connection means for transferring the serial image data to an external device.

2. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:

central processing means for conducting operation control of the whole image processing apparatus;

setting means for storing control information specified by said central processing means;

clock generation means for generating a clock signal having a basic period equivalent to that of a pixel or less;

a plurality of variable frequency generation means for adjusting a frequency of the clock signal outputted from said clock generation means to a predetermined level independently of each other, based on the control information specified by said central processing means, said plurality of variable frequency generation means being provided respectively in association with development colors other than one predetermined color;

image input connection means for receiving predetermined data from an external device;

a plurality of image processing means for converting parallel image data inputted from said image input connection means to serial image data, based on ~~a~~ the frequency of the clock signal outputted from said clock generation means and ~~a~~ the frequency of ~~a~~ the clock signal outputted from an associated one of said variable frequency generation means by taking the frequency of the clock signal outputted from the clock generation means as a reference, said plurality of image processing means being provided respectively in association with all development colors; and

image output connection means for transferring the serial image data to an external device.

3. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein:

said plurality of image processing means are adapted to conduct an image data addition/removal processing operation, and

said central processing means has control information to control at least one of the processing operation of said plurality of image processing means and the frequency adjusting operation of said variable frequency generation means.

4. (New) An image processing apparatus comprising:
a plurality of variable frequency generators, each corresponding to a different one of a plurality of development colors, that separately generate clock signals of desired frequencies; and

a plurality of image processors, each corresponding to a respective one of the variable frequency generators, that each convert parallel image data to variable resolution serial image data based on the frequency of the associated clock signal, wherein:

for each image processor, the frequency of the associated clock signal determines the degree of resolution the converted serial image data represents with respect to the corresponding parallel image data.

5. (New) The image processing apparatus of claim 4, further comprising:

a fixed-rate frequency generator, which also corresponds to a different one of the plurality of development colors, that separately generates a clock signal of a desired frequency; and

another image processor, associated with the same development color as the fixed-rate frequency generator, that converts parallel image data to serial image data based on the

frequency of the fixed-rate frequency generator's clock signal,
wherein:

the frequency of the clock signal of the fixed-rate
generator determines the degree of resolution the converted
serial image data represents with respect to the corresponding
parallel image data.